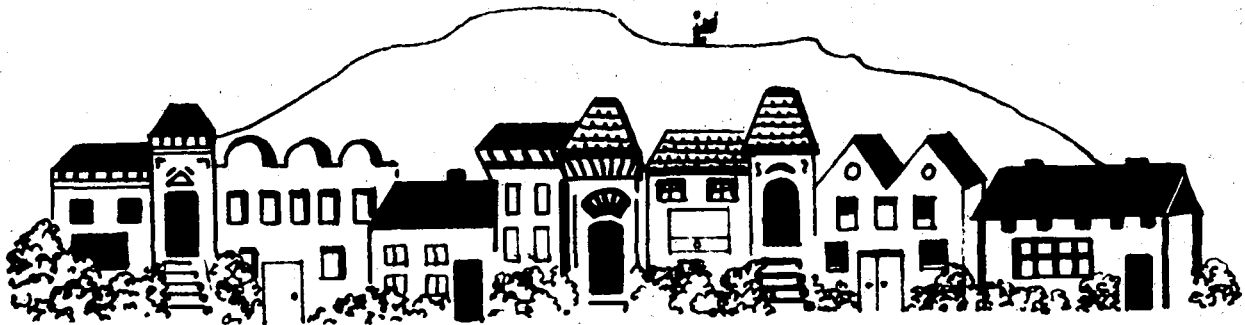


# 25TH ANNIVERSARY ISSUE



# BERNAL JOURNAL

DECEMBER-JANUARY 1988-1989

151

VOLUME 25, NO. 6

## BERNAL JOURNAL CELEBRATES 25th ANNIVERSARY

In October, 1964, the *Bernal Heights Pictorial* showed the diversity of our neighborhood, including a dirt path called *Elsie Street*, and an abandoned car on Prospect-causing neighbors much concern. Well, twenty-five years later, Elsie Street has been widened and paved—and that car has finally been towed away (we hope!).

As you can see by the dateline above—Volume 25, Number 6—the *Bernal Journal* is completing its twenty-fifth year of publication. By the third edition in 1966, the *Bernal Heights Journal* was published by the Bernal Heights Association, who soon renamed it the poetic *Bernal Journal*. The Bernal Heights Community Foundation has published the BJ since 1987, adding a most refreshing addition: youth involvement!

Back in the 1974 edition, you'll find a glamorous photo of Lee Egger, and snapshots of Bernal Festival celebrants Pat Helton and Jim Haas. In September 1975, a page one story calls Bernal Heights "a neighborhood of minorities, a family neighborhood". Also way back in 1975, Barbara Pitschel was writing and illustrating her beloved "Bernal Heights Natural History". I wonder if the "Bernal Heights Ladies Club" is still meeting? 1978 brings into focus the Elsie Street development efforts, and the September 1982 cover story celebrates the opening of the Neighborhood Center.

Always a newspaper written by and for the community, the BJ over the years has truly reflected Bernal Heights and its people. With the help of the Bernal Heights Library archives and *Bernal Journal* files, we've gathered most of the issues since 1964. (We're missing 1965 and 1967-70—we'd appreciate the help of any collectors out there who could help us complete the collection). Published annually in the early years, in 1975 the BJ started coming out every other month. Through the years, there have been many editors—some of whom are still very active on the Hill! Past editors include Theodore Connelly, Walter Curtis, Mimi Mueller, Dan Glasoff and Pat Helton, Genette Sonnesyn, Billie Jones, Greg Johnson and Phil Catani, Steve Chapple and Ann Kyle, Barbara Bagot and Barbara Kosman, Carlos Alcalá, Lurilla Harris, and Barbara Bagot again. Jerry Schwartz, Rex Coultas, and Lee Egger were the backbone of the BJ for years. Other familiar folks who contributed in the early days are Bill Grasse, Sally Green, Audrey O'Gilvie, Susan Brier, Judy Forsberg—and, later, David Butterfield, Gail Caswell, Joanne Molloy, Rich Yurman, and Fred

continued on page 4



## A Decade of Dreams Fulfilled BHCF 10th Anniversary

by Barbara Bagot

Ten years is a long time for a neighborhood-based organization to survive—and with such incredible success. But it does seem like "only yesterday" that neighbors joined together from all over Bernal Heights to found the Bernal Heights Community Foundation. As reported in the October 1978 edition of the *Bernal Journal*:

*The BHCF formed for the purpose of preserving and improving the Hill, particularly in the area of housing programs for low and moderate income residents...."*

The people who started the BHCF fell into two groups: the folks who lived here for a long time, and relative newcomers to the city. But we shared a vision of what a city neighborhood ought to be. Bernal Heights was a place where families could afford to live, where people of diverse ethnic backgrounds, different colors, gay and straight, kids and seniors, all lived side-by-side in harmony. But that vision was being destroyed by outside economic forces.

Housing was fast becoming unaffordable for people who grew up on the Hill—and programs for seniors, youth, and all residents were minimal or non-existent. Neighbors responded to these concerns by organizing. The BHCF founders felt that Bernal residents needed an organization with the power to defend their rights and needs—*people power*. The Northwest Bernal Block Club organized hundreds of their neighbors and wrote the *Elsie Street Plan*, which recognized the need for a community-based non-profit organization to provide the mechanism for neighborhood decision-making and improvement. The Plan also called for the city's first Neighborhood Building Review Board.

The BHCF was established with three main goals: 1) preservation and development of affordable housing; 2) development of neighborhood facilities and services that benefit low/moderate income and minority residents and the whole community; 3) working with groups and individuals on Bernal to foster community spirit, unity, and empowerment.

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**IMPORTANT STORY  
TAKE BACK OUR PARK  
PAGE 7**

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NEW

# BERNAL JOURNAL

515 Cortland Avenue,  
(phone 648-0330)

The *New Bernal Journal* is an open forum of the community sponsored by the Bernal Heights Community Foundation. It is dedicated to providing the people of Bernal Heights with neighborhood news, ideas, issues, and events. Articles express the views of contributors and not necessarily those of the Community Foundation.

DECEMBER 1, 1988

Deadline for articles and photos for the February-March issue is:

FEBRUARY 6, 1989

The next Bernal Journal Advisory Board meeting is January 9, Monday, at 6:30 p.m. in the Bernal Journal Office. Please call if you wish more information.

All manuscripts must be typed, double-spaced, or arrangements can be made to enter them directly into the computer. We reserve the right to edit for clarity or space.

Circulation for this issue: 10,000

## New Bernal Journal Staff/Volunteers:

Editor: Gail Corbitt

Copy Editor: Emma Torres

Youth Page Editor: Eileen Dizon

Advisor: Barbara Bagot

Production Manager: Kay Daly

Movie Reviewer: Don Gibble

Youth Staff: Inez Rosa, Ericha Dominguez, Annalis O'Neil, Alexis O'Neil, Yolanda Arenas, Claudia Arenas, George Sacco

Production Crew: Bob Dutra, Amy Love, John Lyon, Youth Staff

Advertising: Gail Corbitt

Advertising Design: Inez Rosa, Vicki Victoria Nic Griffin

Data Processing: Youth Staff, Emma Torres  
Spanish Translator: Eugenia DiStafano, Maria Chavez

Artwork: Spain Rodriguez, Youth Staff

Distribution: Diane Ross, Steve Antonaros, and a cast of hundreds!

Photography: Gerald Whitehead, Sister Janet Simons, Mike Noon, John Lyon

Advertising: 648-0330

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The *New Bernal Journal* is printed by  
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## MEET MARY FRANKLIN

.....our new Secretary

Mary Franklin joined the staff of the BHCF in September as our secretary. She is deeply committed to working with non-profit organizations. She moved from Milwaukee in 1983 where she had been a volunteer at the North Vision Neighborhood Residence. Mary said, "We got the building in 1982, and then I started working there. I was involved in going to meetings at City Hall and asking for more money. Our motto was: Don't Move; Improve! Working for non-profits is the only place you can work at your own pace and have the freedom to upgrade your skills to their highest level." In addition to Mary's outstanding secretarial skills, she has terrific people skills. She is always smiling and makes everyone feel welcome. Another part of her job which Mary loves is working with the seniors, she said, "This is my first experience working with seniors, and I love it! It is so important that we treat our senior citizens with love, respect, and understanding." Thanks for joining us Mary!

Dear Bernal Journal Editor:

This is in response to the letter sent by R. Wall that was published in the October-November edition of the *Bernal Journal* of this current year.

The suggestion of using the term of Spanish speaking (Hispano parlantes) that there happens to be a right way to designate all the Hispanics who speak Spanish, but it is not applicable for the Hispanics who don't speak Spanish. The term of Hispano Americano is a very good definition of all the Hispanics whose relatives or themselves came from any of the countries of the American continent where Spanish is the official language, but not everybody who lives in this country who is Hispanic came from Latin America. You'd be surprised how many Hispanics there are whose ancestors came from Spain, so even though those two terms are correct, they are not always applicable, but I will keep them in mind in my translation for the future and use them when it is appropriate.

Sincerely,

Eugenia M. DiStefano

Dear Bernal Journal,

Congratulations for the fine October-November 1988 issue.

I especially enjoyed Alemany Notes by Barbara Garcia. It is good to see so many of the diverse sectors of our neighborhood represented in the *Bernal Journal*. I also like the feature on Kitty's by Emma Torres. The *Bernal Journal* needs more stories on neighborhood business. How about one of the merchants on Cortland writing a regular feature on the Cortland's Merchant Association?

And good luck to our new editor, Gail Corbitt.

Yours,

Buck Bagot



## WELCOME EMMA AND INEZ

When Emma Torres moved to Bernal Heights this summer from Los Angeles, she read that the *Bernal Journal* needed volunteers. Luckily for the *Bernal Journal*, she signed up. Her energy and knowledge are amazing, and we are all so very happy that she is with us.

Emma has worked for many years in the media and is a programmer for a viewer supported public television station. Emma has also done an internship at the *Bay Guardian* and all the newspaper and writing skills she honed there, she brought with her to the *Bernal Journal*. She has shared her skills and time with us so generously these past couple of months that we can't imagine what the office would be like without her. When the editor was ill and missed almost two weeks of work at a critical time, Emma was there running the show. During that period, she frequently put in many full days.

Now, Emma has accepted the position of copy editor. In addition to herself, her 15 year-old daughter, Inez Rosa usually drops by to help her out a little each day after school. Inez does the fabulous cartoon on the Youth Page and is the official *Bernal Journal* computer whiz. Besides all this, she keeps everyone smiling with her laughter and sparkle.

Thanks Emma and Inez.



Dear Editor,

The October newsletter of the *Bernal Greens*, distributed recently throughout our neighborhood, contained not one but two personal attacks aimed at myself and two others. As a local resident I feel compelled to publicly respond in an open message to my neighbors.

I was not surprised by this attack—members of "The Movement" (formerly The Community), the parent organization for which Green Future and Bernal Greens are merely fronts for recruiting new members and have resorted to personal attacks in the past when confronted with questions about their history, ideology, and methods. I expect such tactics from George Bush or Ollie North but deplore them as representing the antithesis of true Green methods and values as does the cowardly manner in which both articles were unsigned. I have personally scrupulously striven to avoid personalities and will continue to focus only on issues.

1) Do you refute and disavow or agree with the positions of the Green Party in Argentina? Silo, the founder of The Community, states in an interview in the May 1987 Argentine *PLAYBOY* that The Community founded this Green Party. In a 'Declaration on May' issued this year this Green Party states that the future of the world is in the hands of Atomic Energy and strongly supports the atomic energy industry in Argentina.

2) Ask Bernal Greens members to show you the 'norms' of The Movement and ask them what level they are at. The norms clearly spell out that advancement to higher levels is contingent on the number of new members recruited.

3) Why do so many members who are listed as staff in their 'local' newsletter live outside of the neighborhood?

Bob von Holdt

## Michael Reed Moves On

by Tim Molinare

Michael Reed, the Bernal Heights Community Foundation's Housing Director, has ended his three and a half year stay with our organization. When Mike first came to us, the BHCF had recently suffered the loss of two co-founders, Buck Bagot and Roger Borgenict. The Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program was floundering and in need of help. Mike got to work. He got the program up and running, turning out loans at a rate never before achieved. His professional planning background was put to good use because it was at that time that the Standard Brands/Coleridge Park Homes Project was just an idea. It was Mike who did the most to make Coleridge Park Homes a reality. He was there all the way especially during all the crucial turning points. Steady, clear thinking, and supportive are but a few of the ways to describe Mike's working style. With these accomplishments, Mike now moves on to do more work for others. All of us at BHCF and the community wish him well. Thanks and Good Luck, Mike!



Former mayor for thirty year, "Sunny" Jim Rothe who later became governor.

## HAPPY HOLIDAYS

### Highlights of Bernal Heights History

**1776:** Don Juan Francisco Bernal was 1 of among 30 families who left Mexico with the Anza party to settle California and was eventually stationed at Presidio. Juan Francisco was the grandfather of Cornelio Bernal.

**1839:** Bernal Heights (and most of Hunter's Point) becomes rancho of Don Cornelio Bernal as a land grant given by Spain to military men for years of service.

**1860:** Land passes from Don Cornelio to law firm of Brown & Pacheco. Bernal Heights laid out in 25' x 75' lots by surveyor Vitrus Wackenreuder, establishing pattern that persists to this day of fine-grained community along narrow roads and streets.

**1876:** Frenchman Victor Ressayre of Bernal Heights starts rumor of gold on the Hill. Rush of gold seekers and speculators finds nothing, thrashes Ressayre. Hill known as "Frenchman's Hill" for some time thereafter. (Ressayre's house still standing at the top of Shotwell Street).

**1882:** December snowfall recorded.

**1906:** Bernal Heights safe from Great Earthquake and Fire. Blue-collar Heights residents take carts and wagons down to ruined mansions and commercial buildings and haul back "earthquake timber"—moldings, lumber, marble, plumbing fittings, hardware, etc.—much of which still graces many neighborhood residences.

**1930's:** Bernal Heights Boulevard is constructed around the perimeter of Bernal Hill, bringing all parts of Bernal Heights into contact with one another. A number of old residences on the lower slopes of the Hill are removed for the Boulevard. A greenbelt of public open space, easements, stub ends of streets is established to protect the boulevard from erosion and to buffer the Hill from overdevelopment.

**1965:** Plan by the Arthur D. Little Company to develop Bernal Heights and all Bernal Hill in the manner of Diamond Heights is soundly defeated when more than 700 neighbors rise against the proposal in shock and anger. The late George Moscone, then a member of the Board of Supervisors, comments "We will not preside over the destruction of a distinctive neighborhood."

**1967:** Geronimo McKinnon, last of the Bernal line dies.

**1968:** Bernal Heights Neighborhood Investment Plan prepared by the Bernal Heights Association and submitted to the San Francisco Planning Commission is accepted. It establishes the Hill as open parkland for all to enjoy; the central focus of a network of greenway connections, mini-parks, playgrounds, and other public open spaces.

**1978:** The Elsie Street Plan building guidelines is created by neighbors and passed by City Hall. In this plan the Elsie-Esmeralda-Coleridge open space sequence is designed to connect Bernal Hill with Mission Street. Much of the plan is complete and in intensive use.

### On Cracking Walnuts and Nanny Goat Hill

by Emma Torres

I apologized to Lillian Loomis for taking her away from her walnut cracking. "I don't see that the neighborhood's changed so much in the past twenty-five years. It's still a good, substantial family neighborhood like it's always been." She sat heavily in one of a matching set of leatherette 'lazy-boy' recliners because her back is bothering her. "Twenty-five years ago...maybe the children of some of the older families were moving away. They were disdainful of 'the Hill'—Nanny Goat Hill". She laughed at the memory of the name. "You know it used to be called that; but that was much longer than twenty-five years ago."

Lillian's family arrived on Nanny Goat Hill in 1906. "People up the hill had goats and they'd wander down. One time one got loose and scared the heck out of me." Lillian was born in the same house on Gates street that she now shares with her husband, Thomas. "Now sixty-five years ago"—when she was eight years old—"there was the Cortland Theatre between Gates and Folsom. They would show all the good movies; the serials. Rin-Tin-Tin or Silver Streak, that one was set in the future like Flash Gordon. Of course all of it was better than what you see today—those 'your place or mine' movies." She dismissed these with a twist of her hand followed by her body as she shifted position.

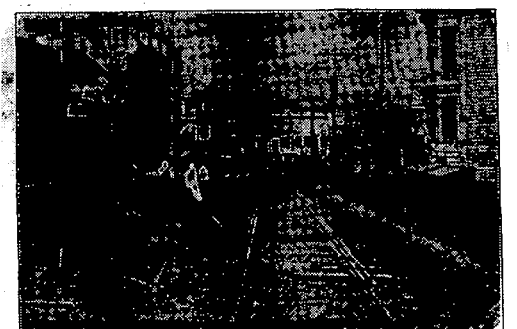
"The '24' was a street car that ran both ways on Cortland. It was single track so when you had two street cars coming from opposite ways one had to move over to let the other pass. The switch point was Brannan Street". A cracking walnut sounded from the kitchen as Lillian paused a moment.

"I'll tell you what hasn't changed. The hub of the neighborhood for me, for Catholics—and for non-Catholics," she adds "is St. Kevin's. From that spot, like a pebble thrown into a pond, neighborhood friendliness has expanded. And the acquisition of the neighborhood center has been the icing on the cake." I ask her what the cracked walnuts are for. "I'm making a 'poor man's spice cake' for St. Kevin's Champagne Bingo on Sunday. It was my mother's recipe." So neighborhood history and family tradition both live on through Lillian Loomis.

**1980's:** Developers and speculators again threaten the integrity of Bernal Heights and Bernal Hill. Proposals for condo housing at Bonview- Stoneman, at Ripley-Waltham, and on Coleridge (along the Elsie open space sequence), alert citizens of Bernal Heights to the necessity of continued vigilance to protect the environment.

**1982:** Design for affordable housing on Holladay Street and Bernal Heights, indicates the community's commitment to filling a need for new residences people can afford. In October two Take-Part Community Planning Workshops are conducted to work out community's own plan for Bernal Heights and its environs.

**1983:** Community's plan for Bernal Hill is widely distributed and discussed in public meetings. Plan is forwarded to San Francisco Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors with the recommendation that it be used as an official guideline and control document for any future development or change proposed for on and adjacent to Bernal Hill.



Trolley lines being laid on Cortland, 1911





## STARTING LINE-UP

Over the years, thousands of Bernal residents from all ethnic backgrounds and income levels, have worked to develop and execute the BHCF's programs. Starting off with volunteers and with the invaluable

help of a \$4,000 grant from the Vanguard Foundation, the BHCF set off to develop and preserve affordable housing, to empower the block clubs and building review boards, and to build a Neighborhood Center. It all began with the charter board members: Barbara Bagot, Maria Basurto, Sedalia Brown, Bob Dutra, Jeanne Hamer, Pat Helton, Miley Holman, Sheila Holman, Gloria Huey, Seth Katzman, Katy Korzelius, Ann Kyle, Keiko Lavasseur, Audrey O'Gilvie, Penny Polatsch, Michael Powers, Margaret Randolph, and Myrtle Walker. The original staff included Buck Bagot and Roger Borgenicht, Co-Directors; VISTA workers Kate Lambert, Kate Esposito, Benny DeGeer, Bob Dutra, and Ann Hickey. The Neighborhood Center Committee was pioneered by Sister Janet Simons, Fay Ferrar, Paul Kreft, Amena Panni—among many others.

## BLOOD, SWEAT AND TEARS

Since then, the BHCF has raised over \$10,000,000 in resources for the community to fulfill the mission of preserving the ethnic, social, and economic diversity of the neighborhood. The housing programs and neighborhood center construction were largely funded by the Mayor's Office of Community Development—and gaining this support was not an easy task. Hundreds of neighbors fought hard for our fair share, attending numerous hearings to testify to Bernal's needs for housing and services. Other funds came from private foundations. The Hewlett Foundation provided much-needed funding in the early years of running the Center. The SF Commission on Aging continues to fund the Bernal Senior Program, which was founded by St. Kevin's Church, and taken over by the BHCF when the Neighborhood Center was completed.

## PROUD PARENTS...

Some of the BHCF's proudest accomplishments are:

◊ The Coleridge Park Homes, an innovative joint development venture with Standard Brands Paint Company, which will provide 49 units of affordable senior housing over the retail store, with parking and a community park.

◊ Acquisition and rehabilitation of two buildings on Cortland Avenue that serve as a Neighborhood Center and as BHCF corporate offices.

◊ Construction of the Holladay Avenue Homes, four limited equity homes that have enabled low and moderate income families to become homeowners. Their beautiful design won the 1985 American Institute of Architects (AIA) award!

◊ The Housing Rehabilitation Loan Program (CHRP), which has served over seventy households with over \$1,000,000 in rehab loans.

◊ The Senior Nutrition and Activity Program, which provides provides over 15,000 meals a year to seniors, as well as morning and afternoon activities.

◊ Youth Employment Programs including job placement of young people at Great America, and

operation of the now-defunct Mayor's In-School Youth Program (MISY), which provided over 120 young adults with employment opportunity.

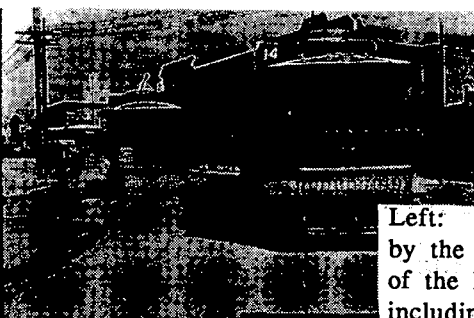
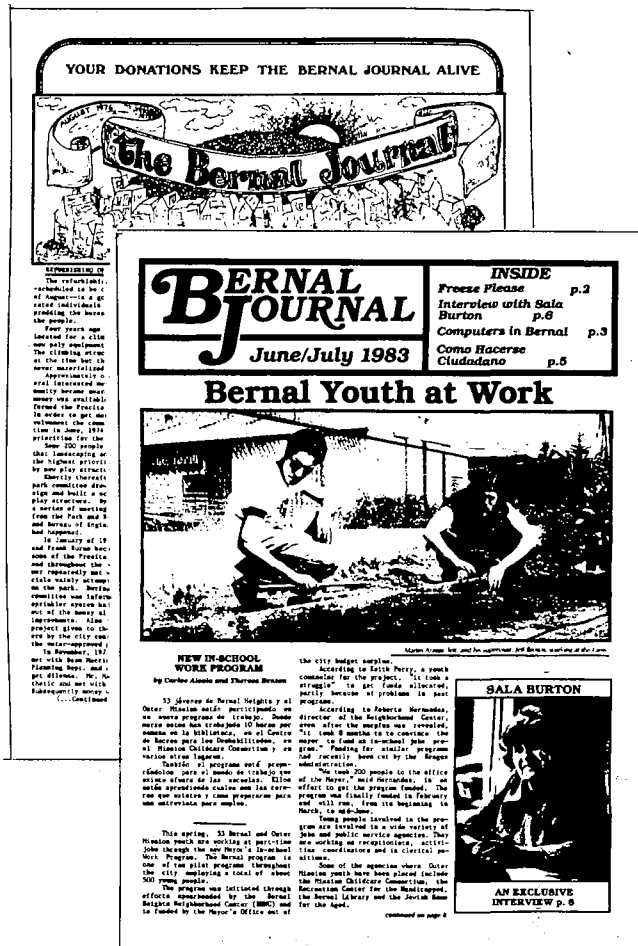
◊ The Bernal Journal Youth Project, teaching neighborhood youth job skills while producing the terrific neighborhood newspaper.

◊ The The Alemany Most Valuable People (MVP) organizing to empower residents of Bernal's public housing developments.

Our work is far from over. Despite the many achievements, the BHCF must continue to work hard to see that Bernal Heights retains its share of safe streets, city services, and affordable housing. The BHCF continues to support residents in organizing block clubs and review boards. In the last year, organizing has extended to the Holly Court and Alemany public housing projects. Also, in 1988, the BHCF became a membership organization. All Bernal Heights residents who believe in the goals of the BHCF are encouraged to join, so we can all continue to celebrate our wonderful, unique neighborhood.

Strickland. Bob Dutra (aka writer R.J. Dutra) is a longtime trooper on paste-up nights.

Who can forget Lil Kruse's great recipes? The mystery behind the Precita Avenue *Beatle House*, and Mayor Feinstein whooshing down the slide at the Esmeralda Mini Park (February 1979), Mayor Agnos with Bernal youth at the BHCF dinner (February 1988)...And how about Rex's great ad for "Tutorials in German, piano, metaphysics, and motorcycle riding"? Now, in 1988 and beyond, we know we can look forward to *Bernal Youth Focus*, *Art and Entertainment*, *Alemany Notes*, *Bernal Senior Program News*, *Library Events*, and—still—*Barbara Pitschel's Natural History*. by Barbara Bagot



Left: The annual baseball hunt sponsored by the S.F. Stars. Above: the property of the Egger family on the East Slope including their cow, Bossy. Lower left: Trolley cars at Mission and Army 1931



## The Bernal Heights Oral History Project Needs You!

by Gail Corbitt

The first Wednesday of every month, the Bernal Heights Oral History Project meets at the library on Cortland at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in Bernal history is invited to attend. We are most grateful to the project for loaning us the fine photos you see in our anniversary issue. Special thanks to Lee Eggar and Bill Cassidy.

The Project collects oral history on video tape. They are seeking people who were born in Bernal Heights or have lived here for many years. A video can be made right in the person's home and the total time involved is only one or two hours.

The Project also collects old photographs of the neighborhood. They will either take them out to be copied or shoot them right in your home, whichever the person prefers.

Bill Cassidy of the Project said, "Essentially, we want to save the history of the Hill. It is one of the few remaining neighborhoods in the city and has always been ethnically diverse. It's always been a family oriented, working class neighborhood and it still is."

If you remember the Bernal Heights of yesterday, please share that priceless knowledge with future generation. For more information call Bill Cassidy at 824-8474.

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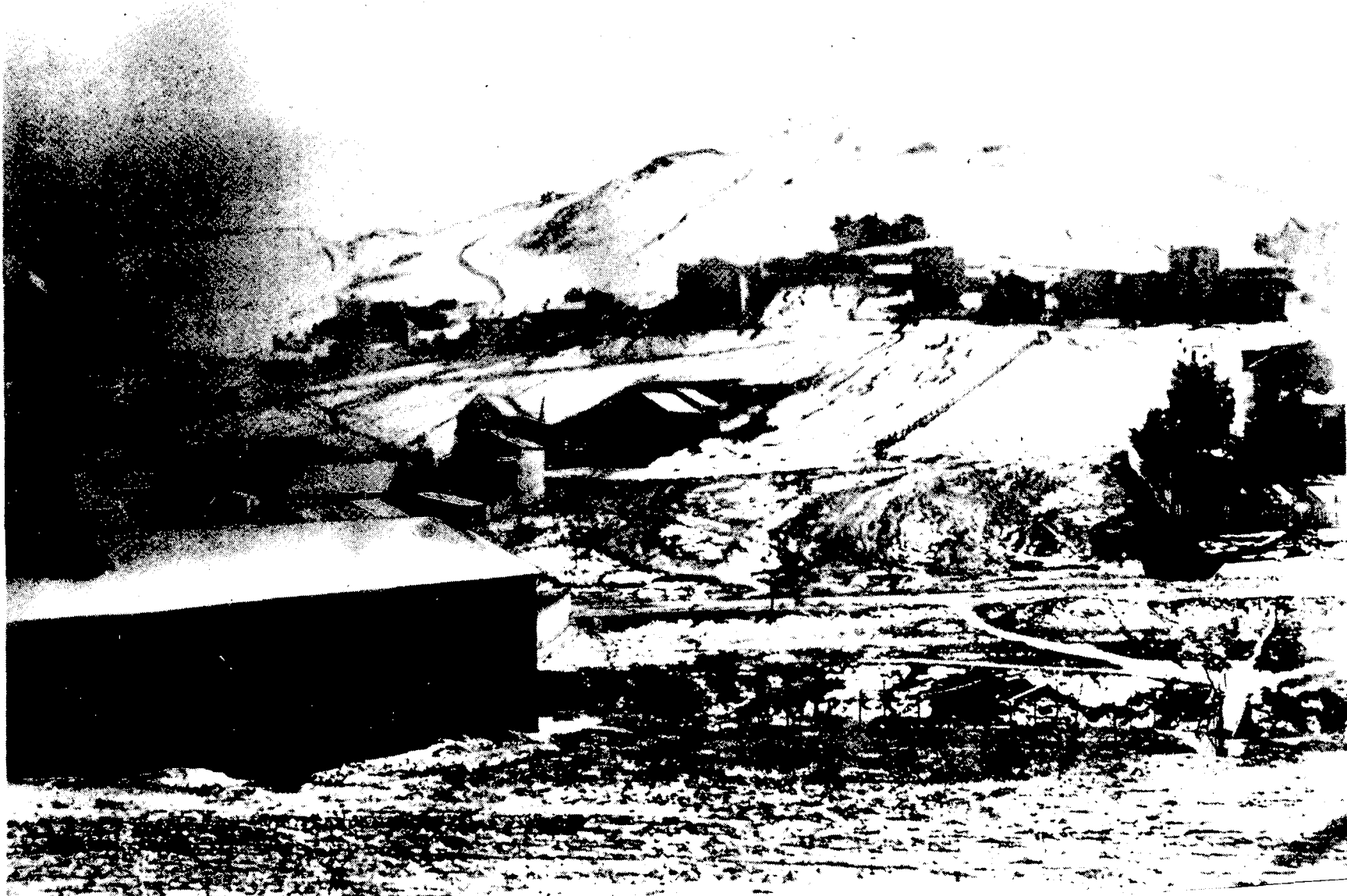


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Bernal Heights covered in snow, December 31, 1882



★ Happy Holidays To Our Neighbors! ★

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# ANGRY NEIGHBORS UNITE AGAINST DRUG DEALERS

by Thomas Hall

After gunfire erupted at the Bernal Playground on Saturday, October 29, neighborhood residents decided that they have had enough of the drug dealers who hang out in front of the playground adjacent to the library. This incident on Saturday evening was only the most dangerous example of what can happen if we continue to allow this problem to go unchecked in our community. On the previous evening, the Halloween party held at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center was disrupted by these dealers who congregated in front of the center to harass the participants. The police were called but did not respond at the time, and the event had to end earlier than planned.

Recognizing that this problem isn't going to go away if we don't do something about it, a meeting was held at the Bernal Heights Community Center on Wednesday, November 2, and although there was no time to publicize the meeting, the room was packed with angry merchants and residents.

Captain Philpott of the Ingleside police station listened to our concerns and made several good suggestions. Numerous questions were asked about what the police can do to arrest these people. Philpot explained that because many of these offenders are minors, even if arrested, they are out on the streets again the very next day. Additionally, if they have been caught in a bust, they are often back on the street before the police officers can complete the paperwork. "The good news," Captain Philpott said, "is that neighborhoods have successfully organized to drive drugdealers out, and you can too. The police department will work closely with the neighborhood, and maybe together we can drive these drugdealers away."

James Treat, the Director of the Bernal Gym, which is located behind the drug dealer's corner said, "We have a lot of creative programs at the gym but parents are afraid to bring their children in." James made another excellent point. "You must bring your children in to use the park; as a neighborhood it is our responsibility to take the park back."

Captain Philpott has assured us that the Ingleside station will step up activity on this corner both through undercover and uniformed officers. Also, he stressed that it is really important for us to report trouble. If there is actual physical danger dial 911. To report drug dealings, noise, or verbal harassment call 553-0123. The more calls and complaints the police receive from Bernal residents, the better, because a high number of incidents reported will let the San Francisco Police Department know that the Ingleside station needs help. Do not call the Ingleside station itself. They cannot dispatch calls from there.

The meeting concluded with a discussion of what can be done. Another meeting with the police will be held at the Neighborhood Center on Wednesday, December 7, 1988, at 5:30 p.m. All concerned are urged to attend. At that meeting we will also begin organizing group "play-ins" so that the park will be used by large groups of people in the afternoon and weekends. The dealers know that they can harass one family away, but when we show up in force everyday, they will know it's time for them to be moving on.

Take Back the Park Meeting  
December 7, Wednesday 5:30 p.m.  
at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center  
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## Reunión de Enojados Comerciantes

Traducido por María Chávez A.

Después del tiroteo ocurrido en el parque de juegos para los niños en Bernal Heights, el domingo 30 de octubre, los residentes de este vecindario han decidido que han tenido suficiente de los comerciantes de drogas que merodean en el frente del parque para niños que esta junto a la biblioteca. Este incidente en la tarde del domingo fué solo el más peligrosos de los ejemplos que pueden ocurrir si continuamos permitiendo que éste problema siga sin revisarse en nuestra comunidad. En la tarde anterior a ésta, la fiesta de Halloween llevada a cabo en el Bernal Heights Community Center fué interrumpida por estos comerciantes de drogas los cuales se congregaron en el frente de este edificio para molestar a los participantes. Se llamó a la policía pero no hubo respuesta en esos momentos, y el evento tuvo que terminar más temprano de lo planeado.

Reconociendo que este problema no se va a terminar por si mismo si no hacemos algo, una reunión se efectuó en el Bernal Heights Community Center el miercoles 2 de noviembre, y aunque no tuvimos tiempo de hacerlo público el cuarto se lleno, de enojados comerciantes y residentes.

El Capitan Philpot de la estación de policía de Ingleside escuchó nuestras

preocupaciones e hizo varias muy buenas sugerencias. Numerosas preguntas fueron hechas acerca de porqué la policía no pudo arrestar a estas gentes, Philpot explicó que debido a que muchos de estos delincuentes son menores de edad aún si fueran arrestados, regresarían a la vía pública al siguiente día, además si se les sorprendiera en la redada ellos volverían a la calle antes de que el oficial de policía pudiera terminar el papeleo del arresto. "Las buenas noticias", "el Capitán Philpot dijo", que vecindarios se han organizado con éxito para correr a los comerciantes de drogas y ustedes lo pueden hacer tambien. El departamento de policía trabajará al mismo tiempo con el vecindario, y así juntos quizás podemos hechar estos comerciantes de drogas de aquí.

James Treat, director del Gymnasio de Bernal, el cual esta localizado atras de la esquina donde estan los comerciantes de drogas dijo. "Tenemos muchos programas creativos en el gymnasio pero los padres tienen miedo de traer a sus niños aquí." James hizo otro excelente punto "Ustedes deben traer a sus niños y usar el parque, como vecinos es nuestra responsabilidad recobrar el parque."

El Capitan Philpot nos aseguro que a traves de policias civiles e uniformados, la estación de Ingleside iniciara actividades en ésta esquina. Tambien el hizo incapie que es realmente importante para nosotros el reportar cualquier problema. Si hay algun peligro físico marcar 911. Para reportar comercio de drogas, ruido ó lenguaje obsceno llamar al 553-0123. Entre más llamadas y quejas la policía reciba de los residentes de Bernal Heights será mejor, porque un mayor numero de incidentes reportados dará al departamento de policía conocimiento de que la estación de Ingleside necesita ayuda. No llamen a la estación de Ingleside, ya que ellos no pueden despachar llamadas desde allá.

La reunión concluyó con una discusión de que puede hacerse. Otra reunión con la policía será efectuada en el Neighborhood Center el miercoles, 7 de diciembre de 1988 a las 5:30 PM todos los que les interesa se les urge el atender a está. En la reunión tambien se organizaran grupos (play-ins) así el parque sera usado por grupos grandes de personas en las tardes y fines de semanas. Los comerciantes de drogas saben que pueden correr a una familia, pero si aparecemos como una fuerza cada día, ellos sabrán que es hora para ellos de irse.

Reunión para recobrar el Parque  
7 de diciembre de 1988, a las 5:30 p.m.  
en el Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center  
515 Cortland Ave.



# Thank You Bernal Journal Distributors

8



by Diane Ross

On October 1, the Bernal Heights Community Foundation hosted a thank-you champagne brunch for all the *Bernal Journal* distributors. Approximately 35 distributors accepted the invitation; many attending with their children (the real people power behind the operation).

The delicious brunch was prepared by BHCF Board member Gerald Whitehead, together with Mary Johnson. Our local Liquor Barn donated the orange juice and provided champagne at cost.

*Bernal Journal* distribution is coordinated by regional captains who deliver bundles of newspapers to the distributors for delivery to you. The *Bernal Journal* would like to thank the following captains and distributors for a job well done in providing service to the community and the newspaper. (If we omitted your name, our sincere apologies and our thanks to you too).

## Regional Captains:

Kay Daly, Janet Simons, Vicki Victoria, Judith Theodori, Gerald Whitehead, Steve Antonaros, Tim Molinare, Sylvia Yee, Maxine Nietz, Terry Milne, Charles Bolton, and Linda Aurichio.

## Distributors:

Kathy Angus, Herb Folsenfeld, Arthur Swartzenberg, Larry Montgomery, Mary Johnson, Anna Lacuna, Elvis & Cecilia Dizon, Ivy Kimball, Judith, A. Gallagos, Sally & Dan Rosen, Beth-Perry Durant, Sr. Pat Armato, Fay Farrena, Laurie Vargas, Pat Lynch, Koni Rivers, Marci Wilson, The Anderson Family, Ana Escobar, Pat Kalbos, Charles Oliver, Joanna Banks, Bonnie Monte, Colin Morris, Anita & Daniel Kline, Pat Murphy, Jay Kilbourne, Susan Cervantes, Pattie Bartlett, Buck Bagot, Dolores Brady & family, Karen Hanson, Bob Dutra, Polly & Mitchell Marshall, Frank Hutchins, Alan McKay, Joe McCue, Kevin and Patty Holmes-McGovern & family, Anna Stern, Joe McHugh, Charles Alcala, Georgia Willette, Betty Hosteins, David Robbins, Helen Bean, Olivia Dildy, David Machett, Beula Heagren, Sue Hestor, Noel, Jeannie Gustofsar, Tony Rodriguez, Marianna Keene, Brian McCaffrey, Rick Palos, Liz Walker, Bill Sorro, Jane Krivich, Charles Bolton, Barabara Dweywer, Norman & Bert Feusf, Beverly & Molly Bagdorf, Cathy Bremer, Fred Fiedann, Lynn Fountain, Linda Aurichio, Fred & Auggie Cinquegrana, Tess Beistel, Richard & Phoebe Van Kooy, Nancy & Eric Ziggs, Andy & Jennifer Sigal, Earl Chase, Dan McMullen, Merle Goldstein, Tom Map, and Flo Kelly.



Harry Britt was honored by The Bernal Heights Democratic Club at a fundraiser which raised over \$1600. Pictured left to right are Gerald Whitehead, Vice President of the Bernal Heights Democratic Club; Gail Corbitt, *Bernal Journal* Editor; Eileen Dizon, Youth Page Editor of the *Bernal Journal*; and Harry Britt, our new Board of Supervisors President.



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## What Child is This?

by E. Dizon

A bubbly, little five month year old girl smiles as she is bounced on a securing lap. What child is this? Nearby, her roommate, a sleeping baby boy is snugly cuddled in his pastel-colored blankets. What child is this?

These infants are just two of the many babies born to drug-addicted mothers in San Francisco. These children are born into a world of hostility and uncertainty and must face many problems of their own including drug withdrawal and abandonment. However, some are given a chance for a better life than the one their troubled mothers would have given. These children have been placed in foster homes with warm, caring foster parents such as Bernal Heights resident, Eula Chriss, the 1988 Foster Parent of the Year.

Eula Chriss has lived in Bernal Heights since 1966, and has housed foster children in her home for some time now. Having three fully grown children, Eula chose to do foster parenting out of her love and concern for children. At first, she dealt with normal infants, but then decided to transfer her energy to high-risk infants. Though her practical nursing background comes in handy, it is Eula's patience and endurance that enables her to deal with her two foster babies problems. "Because they are going through withdrawal, the babies have poor eating habits, their sleeping habits are all out of whack," she says.

Many problems strike the world nowadays such as troubled mothers and their babies, and much needs to be done. If you have a strong love for giving and sharing with kids, and would like to look into foster parenting contact the Social Service Department, but remember some strong advice from Eula, "Everybody can't do this. You have to want to." At least the world has Eula who plans to do foster parenting as long as she can because foster parenting simply is for Eula "a good feeling."

So what child is this sleeping soundly in a crib or laughing happily in someone's secure arms? They are Eula Chriss' very special foster children.



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San Francisco  
Foster Parent  
of the Year--  
Bernal's own  
Eula Chriss





## Filipino Dinner a Huge Success

by Helen Helfer

Thanks to the hard work of Marcie Wilson, BHCf Board Member, our Family Night Filipino Dinner was a huge success. Helping Marcie in the kitchen that night were Cristina Majewsky, another hard working Board Member, Vicki Victoria, our Senior Program Director, Maura Tingzon, and Cornelia Banioza. Thanks also to Mrs. Galacia for helping with the food preparation, and to Mrs. Reynoso and her sister Gimhama for the lovely songs after dinner.

As you can see from the photograph (taken by a new volunteer and friend, Warren Rose), a grand time was had by all. We also raised \$500 for the Neighborhood Center that night, an important and greatly appreciated contribution to our ongoing work.

Please reserve Friday night, January 27th, 1989, for our next big Bernal Heights Community Foundation Family Night. It will be Soul Food, with some HOT entertainment.



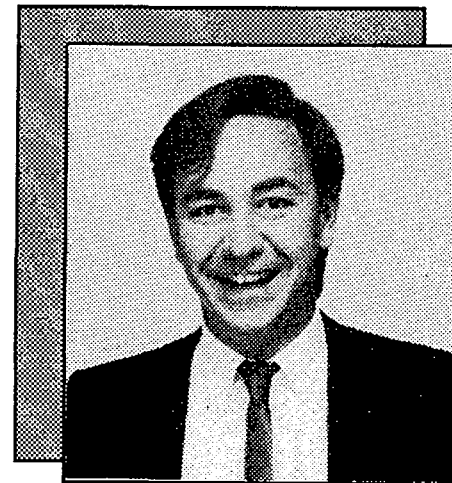
Everyone Applauded! Philip Ortiz, member of the Most Valuable People (MVP) testified before the Mayor's Citizens Committee on behalf of the BHCf. Thank you, Philip, for your support!

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*Special Guest*

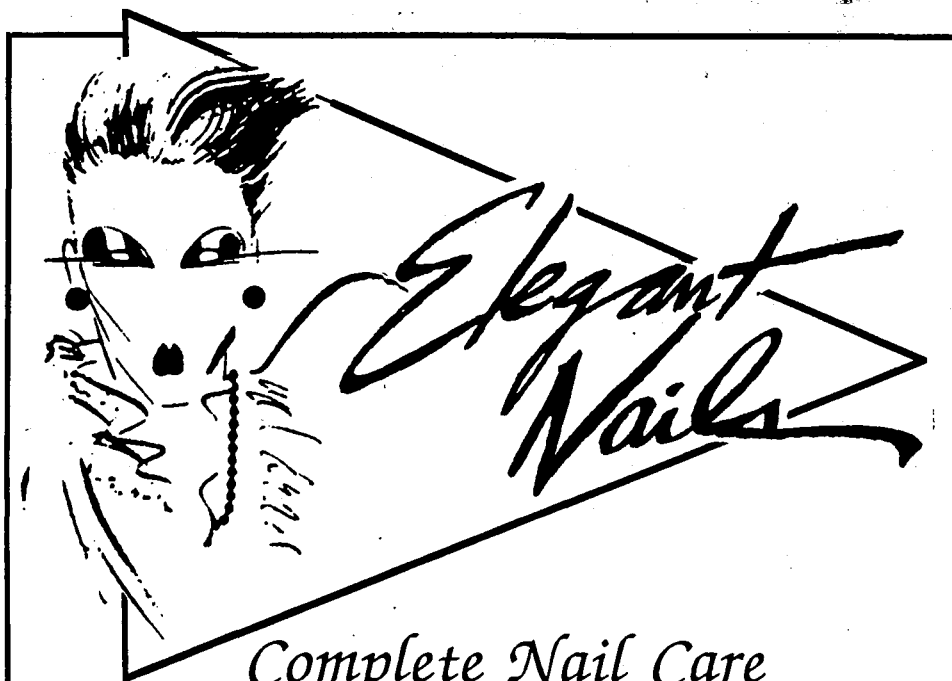
**Will Durst**

*Comedian Extraordinaire*

*There may still be time to join the Celebration...*

Bernal Heights Community Foundation is celebrating its 10th Anniversary with a big fundraising Dinner this coming Monday, December 5th at the Neighborhood Center. Highlighting the evening's entertainment will be Will Durst, comedian extraordinaire, as well as Bernal Height's own Tom Ammiano, Georgia Willette and her sister, Dorothy. BHCf Community Service Awards will be presented to four outstanding volunteers, Emma Torres, James Williams, Bruno Rocha and Benny Smith and two special organizations, Coleridge Street Neighbors and Alemany Tenants Association, all of whom have contributed their time and talents this past year to many diverse community efforts.

Tickets are \$50.00 each, and the proceeds will be divided evenly between the Neighborhood Center Fund and our growing youth program. For ticket information, please call: 648-0330. Hope to see you at the Celebration!



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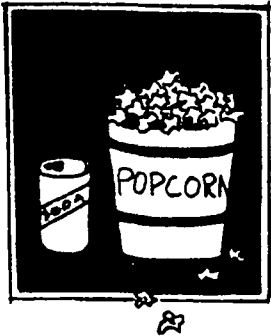
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movie review time:  
by Don Gobble

If you are and avid U2 fan, you will love this film. If you are not a U2 fan, you will become one after watching their new Paramount movie. Song after song after song, this movie never stops in action.

Viewers first experience the sights and sounds of a roaring concert, followed by a statement from singer Paul "Bono" Hewson. "This is a song Charles Manson stole from the Beatles," the singer says as the band breaks into the the Beatles' *Helter Skelter*. "'Now we're stealing it back,'" and with that proclamation, the band performs this Beatles tune. Full of exhaustion, Bono concludes the song by slumping over a speaker and combing back his sweat-soaked hair.



U2

Rattle & Hum

Rattle & Hum shines during some selected performances. Music producer Jimmy Iovine has done a commendable job of mixing the band's swirling Celtic rock on songs such as *Desire* and *Bad*. Most impressive is a reworking of the band's 1987 hit, *I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For*, which is majestically performed with the New Voices of Freedom gospel choir.

For a really good time, go see U2 Rattle & Hum.

Grade B+

Roving  
Reporter

"If you had to give  
Santa Claus  
something,  
what would you  
give him?"

at Head  
Start

by E. Dizon



-Sam Boyd age 4-

"I think I would give him a pretend clown nose. It would look nice with his red suit."



-Syvonne Burgie age 4-

"I would give him a great big present-- a pair of red shoes with little bells. I don't want to give him white shoes because I don't think he likes white shoes."



-Luaimalae Pasene age 3-

"I would give him a doll even if he's a boy."



-Darryl Perkins age 4-

"A skateboard. He would have a lot of fun with it."



-Roberta Brooks age 4-

"Because there is a lot of cute colors such as blue and red, I would give him paint. Santa Claus could mix red and yellow to get orange like what we do."

# BERNAL YOUTH

## Me and Football

by George Sacco age 15

I like football because this sport is fun to watch and to play. At school there is football practice everyday for about three hours. There is always plenty of competition where you are given the chance to play other teams. It is great for whoever wins, but even if you lose, at least you have given it a try. The more you compete with other teams, the more you will get better-another reason to play. There are so many positions to try out for to find what position is best suited for you. Watching football is a lot easier than playing the game because when you play, you have to do many things such as learning plays and learning how not to get hurt. It is not as easy as it seems to be on television because you always have someone better than you, and if you want to keep on playing, you must stay on your toes. The opportunity to travel to different schools and to meet new people is also great. Football is my favorite sport. And because of this, I guess I will try to stick with it and support my team in the hopes that we will win and stay at the top to win the championship.

## Dear Santa...

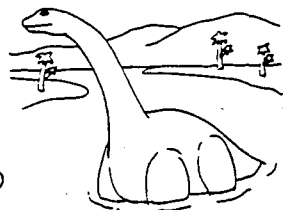
Do you have a letter for Santa but you don't know where to send it because nobody is telling you what the north pole's zip code is? Or do you know anyone in this predicament that wants to tell Santa something? Guess what? Some little elf told me that you can get in touch with the jolly old soul or his wife, Mrs. Claus, or Rudolph, or any of Santa's kin by contacting the Bernal Heights Seniors. Write to:

Santa Claus  
c/o The Bernal Heights Seniors  
515 Cortland Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94110

By the way, don't forget to include your address so Santa can write you back!

But if you do not want to write to Santa, you can always visit him at the BHCF Christmas Celebration. It is on December 22, 1988, Thursday at 515 Cortland Avenue. Christmas movies for kids will be shown and refreshments will be served, and you never know if Santa has a present for you--so, bring your parents and have some extra fun with the BHCF.

What's  
Happening  
up at  
SKY?



Christmas is coming. Really, you say? Yeah, I know you don't need to be reminded, but there are some people in the neighborhood that need to hear that Christmas is on the way. SKY teens are going Christmas caroling on the evening of December 19th to the shut-ins of Bernal Heights. If you have some extra Christmas jollies in your self, than join the SKY crew in singing.

And guess what else is up, all you wild people? "Jammin' in the New Year" is going to be happening on January 7, 1989! The dance will be at St. Kevin's Old Hall-- music by video-rocking Avpro from 8:00 p.m. to midnight. Doors will close at 10:00 p.m. and refreshments will be sold. So, dance your way into the New Year of 1989 with SKY.

Updating phone numbers and addresses is what SKY is doing right now, so if this concerns you, get yourself to the dance, caroling, or to a Monday meeting from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. again at the Old Hall to straighten any details out. Contact any core member for information: Alex Torres 285-0763, Amy Love 641-1540, Angela Borvice, 285-9479, Diane Alvarez, 824-1909, Annie & Roark O'Neill 824-0312, Pat Lynch 824-9696, or Steve Foy 648-4913.



# THE FOCUS

and now a few startling statements from our Youth Page Editor:

## HEY!

Now that I have your attention, listen up! A couple of issues ago, I ran a notice saying that teens are wanted, and guess what? **Teens are still wanted.** More new faces need to be seen around the *Bernal Journal* because new faces mean new ideas and new energy so if you can walk, talk, and eat hot fudge sundaes with your eyes closed, then you are qualified. Don't hesitate to give us a call, pay us a visit, send us a message, or buy us hot fudge sundaes (sorry I got carried away) SOON. Also, if you totally are interested in the fields of journalism, public media, or mass communications, **there exists an apprenticeship program** that is just right for you at the Bernal Journal so sign up as soon as possible.

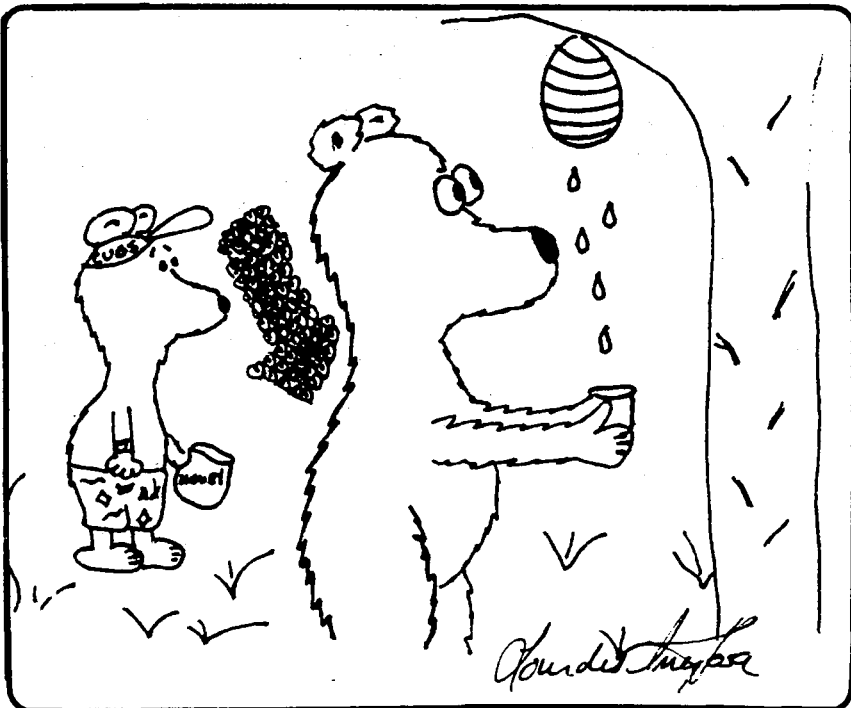
However if you cannot find the time to stop by the BJ, have the mailman **deliver any drawings, poems, cartoons, editorials, and other scratchings** to the BJ for publication consideration. Please make writing is legible and include your age and some name that identifies you. Everything is subject to any editing corrections.

I'm running out of space, so bye for now, and I hope to see you here at the BJ., 515 Cortland Avenue, S.F. CA, 94110. Phone # 648-0330. Happy Christmas and New Year Cheers!

## GENERATION GAP

by Inez Rosa

"Now son, when gathering honey you must learn not to disturb the bees."



Congratulations Summer Award Winners for the Alemany Youth were Nicole McFarlin, Youth Leader and Idrissa Tucker, Youth Camp Life Guard. Nicole and Idrissa gave out and excellent performances at the Alemany Youth Camp at Calistoga Ranch this summer of 1988.

After a successful summer, the Alemany Youth are at work with tutors and counselors. The Homework Club meets each Wednesday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The grades are 3rd through 12th.

Youths' Robert Davis and Jackie Robinson are collecting ideas for planning group outings for the Fall semester. Trips to the Exploritorium, the Hall of Science, ice skating and a Warrior game are a few of the planned activities.

Adult volunteers are needed for activity counselors and tutors. To help a student with their homework and/or spend a pleasant educational outing with a student, contact Earl Chases at 282-9153 or Jerry Powell at 285-4385.

And that's all from Alemany MVP. Till next time...

A  
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V  
P  
by Earl Chase

## Goblin Party For Bernal Youth

The goblins and ghosts made a pre-Halloween appearance at the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center on October 29 and partied for two hours with a group of 90 children and parents. Glowing pumpkins greeted the children and a dimly lighted "tunnel" inhabited by witches and skeletons led the way to the Halloween carnival. Games, including the traditional "apple bobbing" tub, had been set up with prizes for everyone. Also available were Halloween bags of "goodies", delicious taste treats, fruit punch, and buttery popcorn. At the end, a pinata was opened and grand door prizes, a wireless radio controlled car for a boy (donated by Radio Shack on Mission Street) and an electronic game for a girl (donated by Bennie Smith) were given out.

This fun evening was put together by neighborhood resident Bennie Smith, the BHCF Outreach Chair Gerald Whitehead, and three super teens Eileen Dizon, Latrendia Smith, and Michael Woods. In addition to Radio shack, Safeway on Mission Street donated candy, Pay Little market on Cortland gave apples, J.C.'s Market supplied the treat bags, and Far East Imports in Chinatown discounted prizes. Refreshments and decorations were donated by Toni's Tradewinds Cafe, Gail Corbitt, and Gerald Whitehead.

Look out for more BHCF sponsored kids' fun.



## I Love You

by Ericha Dominguez age 17

i love you for the happiness  
you bring to me each day  
i love you for the kindness  
of your thoughtful way.

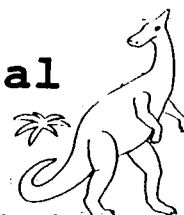
i love you for the patience  
when i do something wrong  
i love you for your laughter  
that lingers like a song.

i love you for the gentle way  
you cheer me when i'm sad  
i love you for the little things  
you do to make me glad.

i love you for your love to me  
so comfort and so true  
but most of all i love you dear  
because you're you!!!

## At the Bernal Library

by Cathy Bremer



### For kids and their whole family:

Join your neighbors for our annual holiday at the Library. On Wednesday, December 7, at 7 p.m., the library presents a Zulu folktale, "The Story of Nomxakazo". If you attended last year's party, you will remember their wonderful production of "The Berrypicker and the Bear". This year promises to be even more fun. It's a production the whole family will enjoy. Refreshments will be served, and it's all free! ( If you would like to make a contribution of food or money for the party, just come into the library or call us at 285-1744 ).

On the following Wednesday evening, December 14 at 7 p.m. the library becomes a concert hall as the Quint Avent Ensemble presents a program of classics and carols for woodwind quintet. A real treat -- this program is also free. Join us for music in the library.

### Especially for kids:

On Tuesday, December 13 at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday, December 14 at 7 p.m., we will show *Caps for Sale*, *Charlie Needs a Cloak*, *Fox Went Out on a Rainy Night*, and *Frederick*.

On Tuesday, January 24 at 10:30 a.m. and Wednesday, January 25 at 7 p.m., we will show *Corduroy*, *Frog Goes to Dinner*, *Chairy Tale*, and *Fiddle-De-De*.

Ongoing children's programs include Preschool Storytime every Tuesday morning at 10:30 a.m. and Family Storytime on Wednesday nights at 7 p.m.

Bernal Library  
500 Cortland Avenue  
285-1744

Tuesday	10-6
Wednesday	1-9
Thursday	1-6
Friday	1-6
Saturday	1-6

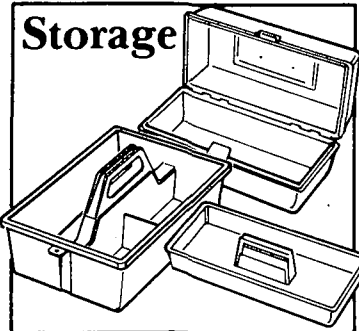


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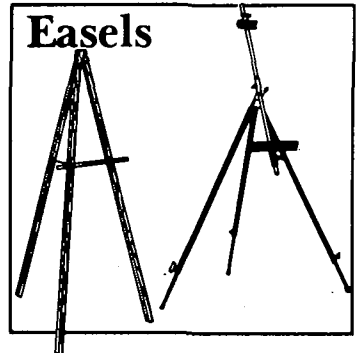
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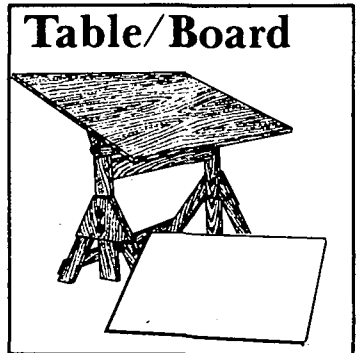
9 Hole Plastic Tray ... Comp. .89

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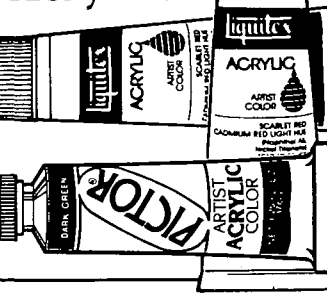
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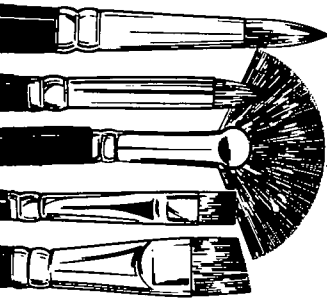
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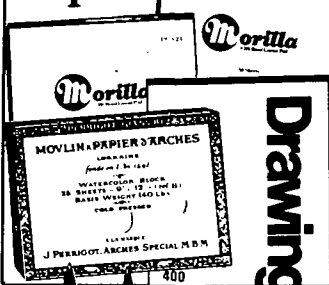
#4720 B (2) ... Comp. 2.25 ... **1.69** Ea.

#4720 R (4) ... Comp. 2.70 ... **2.09** Ea.

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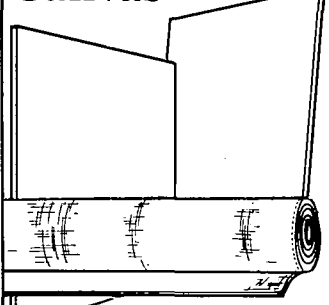
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# PRESTAMOS PARA REHABILITACION DE CASA



Spanish Translator: Eugenia DiStafano

Al finalizar este ultimo del mes, 4 unidades habitacional mas fueron reparadas. E programa de rehabilitacion de casas de Bernal Heights Community Foundation, ha entregado mas de un millon de dolares en reparaciones de casas de los residentes de bajos ingresos en todas las areas de esta colina.

Porches en mal estado, instalaciones electricas inadecuadas, plomeria desgastada, techos con goteras, son solo unos de los pocos problemas de reparacion que el programa de Rehabilitacion realizo.

Este programa fue iniciado hace 7 anos para personas como Maxine Anderson cuya casa necesitaba desesperadamente ser reparada.

"Como madre soltera no podia financiar las repaciones, Maxine explico; "el programa de Rehabilitacion realizo una labor exelente completando el trabajo necesario.

Sin embargo los beneficios de este programa no solo afectaron a los duenos inmediatos, pero tambien a los negocios locales del vecindario de donde se surtieron con los materiales de construccion necesarios.

Los prestamos de rehabilitacion que llegan a los \$20,000.

están disponibles para los duenos de casas de bajos ingresos (vea la lista abajo) al 3% de interes por un termino de 10 anos. Hay un beneficio especial dado a las personas con impedimento fisico o para ancianos. El director de rehabilitacion de casas atendio, a cualquier aplicante con la informacion y ayuda necesaria desde llenar las aplicaciones y la revision de los problemas del edificio, supervisando el proceso de las obras, hasta llevando los papeles necesarios al departamento de la ciudad y viendo que los proyectos estuvieran completos.

Ademas del programa individual de Rehabilitacion para duenos de casas, la ciudad de San Francisco ha empezado recientemente a promover un programa por separado para inquilinos de casas llamado Programa de Reabilitacion de Renta (RRP). Este programa es una estimacion para mejorar a los duenos de casas que rentan y que no necesariamente sean de bajos ingresos para recibir ayuda. Este es un programa en el cual la ciudad facilitara los dolares para completar las reparaciones necesarias. Hay una formula basada en los ingresos de los inquilinos y en el numero de dormitorios por unidad. Asi como el programa de rehabilitacion de casas, los miembros de BHCF daran ayuda a cualquiera que desee aplicar durante todo el proceso, desde la aplicacion hasta que la construccion este completamente terminada.

Desde que se formo en 1981, a combinado los esfuerzos de los miembros de la comunidad activista apoyados por la ciudad y tambien la dedicacion de los contratistas al mismo tiempo que al personal que trabajo en las construcciones y reparaciones, han hecho que el Programa de Rehabilitacion de casas del BHCF influyera en las renovaciones de mas de 60 unidades de casas en Bernal Heights.

## BERNAL HEIGHTS COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

### PRESTAMOS PARA COMPOSTURAS DE CASAS

Se requiere ingresos bajos

No. de Ocupantes	Ingresos maximos
(1)	\$22,700
(2)	\$25,900
(3)	\$29,150
(4)	\$32,400
(5)	\$34,450

Prestamos de hasta \$20,000 disponibles al 3% de interes diferido por 10 anos, (hay consideraciones especiales para residentes que son mayores de edad y para deshabilitados).

Las repadraciones se hacen por un contratista que tiene licencia y que fue seleccionado competitivamente y que ademas puede incluir otras areas como alambrado electrico, plomeria, instalacion de techos, reparacion de cimientos, porticos, cocinas y banos.

Los procesos y manejo de documentacion arreglada por empleados de Bernal Heights Community Foundation, deben de hacerse en un limite de tiempo. De comienzo a terminacion de los trabajos, entre 3 a 9 mes, dependiendo del tiempo que se tome el dueno de la casa en su decision.

Favor de llamar a Michael Noon al telefono 648-0330, de lunes a viernes entre 9 a.m. y 5 p. m., si tiene alguna pregunta o si se decide a solicitar este servicio.

Jessica Murray's



## Astro-rap

As 1988 winds to a close, let us contemplate the major astrological event of the year.

I refer to the meeting of the sky of Saturn and Uranus. These two planets conjoin only once every 45 years, so their union during 1988 was one of the things that really put this year on the map.

Saturn symbolizes structure and discipline, while Uranus is the defiant urge to innovate. Since these two energies are pretty much antithetical, the fusion of the two creates tremendous pressure for the populace and its institutions. Although the first of the three peak periods of this conjunction did not hit until February of 1988, its effects were felt as early as October 1987 with the disaster on Wall Street.

Saturn governs all of the bulwarks of order and established values that glue a society together. Uranus governs the sudden changes which explode these structures. That which is most REAL to a culture is slated for upheaval when Saturn and Uranus meet. In our country, money seems to hold this cherished position: material values are the one the consensus uses to define reality. (Consider the metaphorical use of the phrase "bottom line," spawned from a financial term) and the financial institutions set up to represent those values- the banks with their marble pillars, symbolic of stability, and the stock market with its universally scrutinized authority- have become for us the focus for the lightning bolts of Uranus.

A stock market failure was perhaps the only way to put a fissure into the great brick wall of our collective materialism. Many analysts believe that an even bigger collapse will arrive in late 1989 when Saturn meets Neptune, the planet of dissolution.

On an individual level, too, the Saturn-Uranus conjunction had revolutionary effects.

This year every one of us was given the chance to make a commitment to something that was peculiarly our own, to take a stand for individuality. What form this took depended upon where the conjunction fell in your birthchart. If it fell in your fourth house of the home, for example, perhaps the inspiration would have been to move into a house from everyone else's. In the tenth house of Careers, the conjunction would have provoked the urge to commit to being an unusual professional with your own special genius.

As the year comes to an end, so does the immediate impact of the Saturn-Uranus principle. But the windows in our vision that it has opened will remain open. We are all being groomed for the coming Aquarian Age, during which time our commitment will be tested time and time again.



## ASTROLOGY

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## BERNAL HILLTOP Native Grassland Restoration Project

by Barbara M. Pitschel

In this brief period of winter dormancy, which we hope will soon be broken by much-needed rains, I am going to depart from the usual format of describing Bernal flora and fauna to present an update on recent developments in the Bernal Hilltop Native Grassland Restoration Project and to invite additional neighborhood participation.

Rick Clinebell, resident ecologist and volunteer project manager, returned to his native midwest (great grassland country!) at the end of September, leaving participants with a lot of Bernal-collected seed but not much expertise in the propagation of San Francisco native grasses and other local plants. We are all deeply appreciative of Rick's work and help over the past two years. We are determined to carry on sharing our collective knowledge and by learning through participation in the hands-on work. A meeting called to discuss the reorganization and planning revealed the welcome news that some highly-skilled professional gardeners, plant propagators, botanists, and naturalists are involved in the project in both participatory and advisory capacities, so we can be sure that work will continue to progress.

Anyone interested in being part of this effort is welcome (and needed!). Here are some of the ways in which people can help with the Bernal Project:

**SEED PROPAGATION** (Adopt-A-Flat): Only plants grown from Bernal seed are being planted on the Hill. The reason for this is to ensure that the genetic stock is not unnaturally contaminated. The only exception that is being made is the reintroduction of species that formerly grew on Bernal but are now extinct, and these are being reintroduced from the closest available populations. Many volunteers have already agreed to take responsibility for propagation and care of Bernal species in their homes. There are still some grass seeds (easy) and rare bulb seeds (more difficult) in need of caretakers.

**SEED COLLECTION:** During late spring and summer we will be trained to collect seed from grasses and other natives that we want to propagate.

Instruction is needed to ensure that participants collect seed at the proper time and in quantities that will not have a negative impact on the existing flora. As a safeguard, seed collection should always be undertaken as a group effort; individuals should refrain from collecting seed on the hill.

There are some of the ways that interested neighbors can become involved. On this, the 25th anniversary of the *Bernal Journal*, I can look back and say that, in some ways, Bernal Hilltop is better off than it was twenty-five years ago. Fifteen years ago the hilltop became a city park. Several of the people who worked toward that goal are still actively protecting and caring for the Hill today. We now have guard rails, a jogging path, a partial road closure, and a gate at the foot of the phone company road, all of which benefit pedestrians and discourage litterers. Fifteen years of monthly cleanups have made Bernal one of the least littered open spaces in our area.

If you are interested in becoming part of the constituency that will protect and improve the hilltop over the next month or the next twenty-five years, contact me (Barbara Pitchell) at 282-5066, or attend a work party on the third Sunday of the month. Mark your calendars for December 18, January 15, and February 19. Meet at the gate at the foot of the road to the phone company microwave tower at 11 a.m. If you plan to do weed control, please bring clippers.

## Design Review Board Holds Election

by Tim Milne

The East Slope Design review Board will hold its annual election night on Monday, December 12 at 7 p.m. at the Neighborhood Center (515 Cortland Avenue).

All East Slope residents, owners or tenants, are urged to turn out. This is your chance to nominate and elect members for new terms on the neighborhood Design Review Board.

East Slope neighbors now have a voice in the development and building that goes on in the neighborhood. Help continue this tradition by turning out for the Design Review Board election night.

Particulars may be obtained by calling Jill Wynns at 824-8560, or Ann Henry at 824-4348 or Terry.

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- Dec. 13 - WOMAN'S HEALTH
- Dec. 20 - ENDURANCE, STRENGTH AND OXYGEN

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- Jan. 6 - CLEANSING AND DETOXIFYING THE BODY
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- Jan. 20 - WOMAN'S HEALTH
- Jan. 27 - ADDICTIONS

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## MUSIC FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES

by Henry Hollander

Mark Smith has been playing special music programs for kids for the past four months. He frequently appears at Buffet Flat at 307 Cortland Avenue. Over that time the repertoires has shifted some but certain songs have become mainstays. Among them are, not surprisingly, *Twinkle Twinkle Little Star*, *The Alphabet Song*, *The Numbers Song*, and *Three Little Monkeys*. Then there are the old folk songs that parents and children both remember (mostly) and of course there are, if the kids can get it out of him, the rap songs. Each time, the highlight of the show is a story. *The Three Little Pigs* has to be the best.

When Mark began, he was singing alone with his guitar. Since then, he has tried out synthesizer and amplification. Jose Rodriguez has joined him on the bass guitar and as a second voice.

Before his first appearance as a performer, however, Mark already was bringing his music to children. Mark has been playing music since his teens and when he began teaching as a substitute in the city school district, he found his music a useful tool. It was difficult to capture the attention of the group of students who knew he would be with them for only a short time. Looking to the music that held their attention, he took up rapping. It worked. Beginning the day with a rap caught the attention of the restless classes. The raps were not just idle bragging though. Instead they offered good advice and shed some light on some bad behaviors.

If you're an adult, and you're wondering what is in it for you, be assured that there is plenty. All old songs are cute when Mark sings them. The songs swing. That shouldn't be a surprise since in addition to school and children's music, Mark also leads a R&B band, Falcon Eddy and his Eastsiders, and plays country music when he has the time.

Right now, Mark is only playing once a month at Buffet Flat at 1 p.m. on the second Saturday of the month. Come out to hear him and tell him what you think.

**El Rio** For those who don't know what lies behind the modest storefront at 3158 Mission El Rio is a wonderful place to be around a truly fun and varied crowd. People of all ages, races, gays and straights, yuppies and freaks meld into one live-and-let-be fun-loving crowd. *Samba Party Tues., 9-12 p.m. Comedy Wed., 8-10 p.m. Free oysters Fri., 5-7 p.m. D.J. Music Fri. & Sat. Cheap Beer Sat. Afternoon Sunday Music 4-8 p.m.*

## Breakfast in Bernal

**Toni's Tradewinds Cafe:** Whenever I eat breakfast at Toni's, I can't decide which I like best: the amazing home cooking or the totally relaxed atmosphere.

The food does not come to your table quickly because Toni's husband John individually prepares each order. His home fries must be the best in the entire world! Some of us are slaves to his corned beef hash. The servings are huge, but everything is so delicious that you will find you can eat more than you had thought you could.

In our rush, rush world you can leave your rushing on Toni's doormat, get out your newspaper and enjoy the wait. A couple of breakfasts at Toni's, and you will know that you are on your way to becoming a *regular*. If you've had a cold, Toni is sure to ask how you are doing, and if you are trying to get enough signatures on your petition, she will convince you that you will ace it. She's everyone dream best friend.

The decor at Toni's is a little of this and a little of that with lots of wonderful pictures and knick-knacks. She keeps threatening to modernize the decor, but I hope she doesn't.

If you're in a hurry, rush to McDonald's, but if you want to enjoy a leisurely, delicious breakfast and a family atmosphere, then Toni's is the best place to be. See you there.

**Kitty's Restaurant:** The first time I walked into Kitty's my reaction was that it looked *exactly* like a diner should look: the counter with the menus by the napkin holders, the daily specials paper-clipped inside, the little tables at the back with the plastic flowers, and everything neat and spotless. I sat down on one of those neat little counter stools to place my order and there was Kitty with her tidy little uniform and her bottomless good cheer to take my order.

Louis is the cook and you get to sit and watch all the action right behind the counter. After countless meals there, I can say the food is consistently good. That must explain why it is such a favorite among the local merchants. Breakfast is served all day and the menu is quite varied, but whatever you order I think you'll find it fantastic.

**Al's Good Food Cafe:** Although Al's Good Food Cafe has only been open since April, owners Jim and Joanne are not new to Bernal Heights. They operated Jim's Donuts at 3386 Mission from 1970-1983. The restaurant is named in memory of Joanne's father who was their cook for many years. Breakfast is served all day here, and service is fast and friendly. Portions are generous. My over medium eggs were actually that, just when I'd about decided that an over-medium egg could not be found.

Seniors always receive a 10% discount. Al's Good Food Cafe is definitely a welcome addition to Bernal Heights.

By Gail Corbitt

Cesar Asscarrunz has long been known for his dedication to Bernal Heights, but I was surprised to learn that every Sunday afternoon Cesar opens the doors for free dancing to seniors. On the day I was there a Halloween party was in progress and it was fun!

**Cesar's Latin Palace:** Thurs. 8-2a.m. Latin Music: Fri. & Sat. 9p.m. to 6a.m. Latin Music. Sun. Senior's Top 40's FREE 12-5p.m.,

Sun. evenings: Latin music and benefits. 3140 Mission/648-6611

### Buffet Flat Happenings

\*All free\*

- Dec. 2 Blues with Buddy Reed
- Dec. 6 Film showing from local non-commercial film-makers
- Dec. 9 Country Folk with Broadripple
- Dec. 10 (at 1 p.m.) Kids' music time
- Jan. 6 Blues with Chester D.
- Jan. 10 Film showings from local non-commercial film-makers
- Jan. 13 Blues with Buddy Reed
- Jan. 14 (at 1 p.m.) Kids' music time
- Jan. 27 Robin Mackey & Florence Yoo Hootinary Folk

307 Cortland/641-8247

### The Deli Pub: Palestinian and Israeli Artists Against the Occupation

"The return of the territories will make peace and freedom possible. Both peoples will be fully independent and we, Palestinian and Israeli artists, will be able to exchange information, knowledge, and experience unhindered so as to enhance the creative work in which we are engaged." Having stated their position, a group of Palestinian and Israeli artists have arranged to exhibit a collection of prints at the Deli Pub entitled "Down With The Occupation." The exhibit is a rotating collection of black and white prints which express a powerful message. Ziad and Imad Yaish, owners of the Deli Pub for one and a half years, are Palestinian artists who feel that the art in this exhibit "is the highest form of communication through which we express the hope that both peoples can be neighbors."

\*"Down With The Occupation" art exhibit from November 15-December 15.

\*Human Rights Day Pottery readings and music December 10 301 Cortland/285-1631

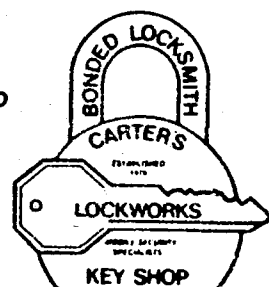
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## Grass Roots Campaign Succeeds

by R.J. Dutra

Tom Chiosso, Coordinator of Special Projects for the S.F. Recreation & Parks Department, visited the Hill recently responding to a letter sent to the Department requesting signs be installed to identify Bernal Peak as a park. The letter was also published in the Bernal Journal (8-9/88). Supervisor Nancy Walker's help was also enlisted; resulting in an offer from the Department of Public Works to put up street signs.

Public Works has produced two metal signs which Recreation and Park will install by the two gates. According to Ron de Leon, Assistant Superintendent of Parks, the signs will be temporary until "a more appropriate and aesthetic sign is produced;" perhaps long planks attached to the gates with "Bernal Park" carved into them. Bernal residents fought long and hard to preserve the top-of-the-hill succeeding in 1973. We know it is a park, but now visitors and passing strangers will know also. The signs can remind us all of the prize we have, of our pride in our park, and of our duty to care for and preserve it.

Thank you *Bernal Journal* for another successful grass roots effort, in this case, Native Grass-roots.



Four books were generously donated to the Bernal Heights Library and the BHCN from Mr. Alfredo Pascua. Mr. Pascua is a retired legal advisor in the Filipino Consulate and a long time Bernal Heights resident. The author, Mr. Elena is a resident of Daly City. This book is excellent reading for youth and adults. In the next issue of the *Bernal Journal* the book will be reviewed and Mr. Elena will be interviewed.

## Recycling Benefits Bernal

by John Pound

Recycling benefits all of us—not just because it avoids needless waste, but also because San Francisco is rapidly running out of landfill space and soon will have no place to put all the things we throw away.

The Bernal community has been a leader in voluntary recycling for years through the Bernal Recycling Center, located in the rear parking lot of the Farmer's Market (100 Alemany Blvd., and the end of Crescent Ave.)—but we can do more!

Now there is a way to increase our recycling efforts and to make them pay off for our community! Bernal Recycling and the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center are starting recycling collection days at the Neighborhood Center (515 Cortland Ave.). The value of the materials that are brought to the Neighborhood Center for recycling will be donated to the support of the Neighborhood Center.

Bring your recyclables to the Neighborhood Center and help support the activities there. The first collection day will be the day of the next food distribution, December 29, 1988. When you come to the Neighborhood Center bring your aluminum cans, glass bottles, bags, newspapers and magazines. Please rinse out the glass and plastic bottles and please separate the magazines from the newspapers.

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## BERNAL JOURNAL YOUTH PROJECT NEEDS SUBSCRIBERS

By Gail Corbett

As the only youth training program in Bernal Heights, we play a vital role in shaping the future of our area youth. Not only do we teach job skills related to the *Bernal Journal*, we also assist youth in other ways such as teaching job interviewing skills for Great America applicants. The *Bernal Journal* Youth Project was also responsible for the day to day operation of our wonderful Great America Jobs program. You are always welcome to drop by and see what we are doing at the Youth Project.

The sad news is that our sources of funding are about exhausted, and with increasing demands on private foundations and corporations money is increasingly difficult to come by. To date we have had a positive response to our subscription program. For just \$7.50 a year you get the *Bernal Journal* mailed to your home and we send you a monthly update on the Youth Project. Additional donations are always welcome. Please remember Bernal youth in your holiday giving.

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# Senior News

## Living in Bernal Heights

By Monika Kehoe

When I came to San Francisco from Guam in 1977, I lived for about a year on Twin Peaks. Then I moved to South San Francisco but found, after a while, the daily trips to the City, where I was working, too time-consuming. My first experience with living in Bernal Heights was from the city-side where, in 1982, I rented a garden apartment on Elsie Street for a few months before deciding to buy on the south side of the hill.

The polyethnic character of the southslope neighborhood appealed to me and I liked the possibility of living in the city of San Francisco but away from the noise and traffic in the rustic and almost bucolic environs near the top of the hill. (In our over-populated urban areas, space and quiet are at a premium.) I also knew my dog and cat would welcome having a green domain to play in while I could enjoy the spectacular views of the walk around Bernal Heights Boulevard.

Since then I have also found the neighborhood Senior Center on Cortland Avenue a great place for social activities as well as for its pleasant and nutritious meal program. Just across the street is the Bernal Heights Library, a definite asset to the community. Then, along both sides of Cortland extends the Bernal Heights shopping mall offering convenient products and services to all those who live in the region - everything from pet supplies to Polynesian food delicacies, from shoe repairs to shampoos.

What about the weather? Bernal Heights excels in this department since it is usually warm and sunny even when other parts of the city are shrouded in fog or drizzle. There is even a community garden above Folsom Street where residents can have a plot of ground for cultivation. Since I've been here, a convenient walking/jogging path has been installed around Bernal Heights Boulevard so that we are able to take our exercise right here at home without the necessity of a long drive to one of the municipal parks or the seashore.

But the activities and facilities available are not the major attractions of living here, so far as I am concerned. I value the peace and quiet of my hide-away near the top of the hill. My house is far enough from the boulevard (now blocked to through, round-about traffic) so that I cannot hear the occasional car that passes by. There is no competition to drown out the song of my resident family of bluejays; no noise to disturb my sleeping pets. From my rear deck, on a clear day, I can watch the sail boats on the bay or the shadows move across the San Bruno Mountains. At night I can see in the distance, the San Mateo Bridge and the necklace of car lights come over the hill from the South as they wind their way to the city. Again, I appreciate this silent, distant land and seascape which is not interrupted by any commercials. I'm lucky to live in Bernal Heights.



Margaret Smith



## 25 Years Ago In Bernal Heights

Margaret Smith, a staff member at the Bernal Heights Senior Program, has lived in the same house and has had the same phone number in Bernal Heights for forty and a half years. She looks back on Bernal Heights, over a quarter of a century ago...

Q. - How would you describe Bernal Heights 25 years ago?

M.S. - Bernal Heights was noted for the Italian and Irish people who settled here, many who owned places of business; hardware store, variety store, bakery, fish market and supermarket and a greenhouse. I was an active member of the "Bernal Boosters" who were very busy at that time upgrading the neighborhood. We were able to have the streetcar tracks removed and have Cortland Avenue repaved plus get the sidewalks widened, as well as get trees planted along the avenue. The President of the Boosters was Philip Dindia, who passed away in the late 1950's and the Boosters ceased.

Q. - How would you compare the Bernal Heights of 25 years ago to the Bernal Heights of today?

M.S. - Since the streetcars were discontinued, there is more automobile traffic and consequently more noise. More homes have been built, so the population has significantly increased.

Q. - What do you like most about the Bernal Journal?

M.S. - It is very informative and well organized.

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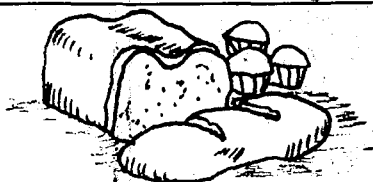
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Monika Kehoe

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## Alemanya Notes

by Barbara Garcia

Hola! The big news in Alemanya is the rehabilitation project. Two years ago the S.F. Housing Authority received \$5 million from HUD to rehabilitate the apartments in Alemanya. Seems like good news so why is everyone unhappy? Well, like most older buildings the sewers need upgrading and Alemanya is no exception. We've had sewer problems for a long time so it would seem that with \$5 million that one of the priorities would be an adequate sewer system. Not so. In fact they plan to eliminate the individual washing machine hook-ups due to the inadequate sewers. Really, give us a break. They (the SFHA) is going to spend \$5 million on improvements, and we're going to lose our washing machine hook-ups! And that's not the worst of it. The SFHA is adding insult to injury: they intend to spend some \$50,000 to build a new laundry facility. Here's the joke (except no one is laughing), we already have three laundry rooms in Alemanya and not one of them can be used. The SFHA could not protect them from vandals nor could they maintain them and they are all boarded-up and useless. Gives true meaning to the expression "throwing good money after bad".

Time for some good news. JOBS! There should be plenty of them for Alemanya residents. In Hunter's Point every government project had 50% of the jobs going to residents. No reason why we shouldn't have the same sort of agreement with the contracting companies when they start the construction at Alemanya.

Why is it that everyone but the cops knows who sells drugs? I see no reason for the harassment of innocent people, especially children.

On election day I spoke with an Alemanya resident of 17 years. She told me that 34 years ago when she was pregnant with her son she saw the foundation being laid for the Alemanya housing development. When she inquired about renting an apartment she was told, "sorry, but we don't rent to coloreds." So much for the 'good ol' days'.

Happy 25 years to the Bernal Journal. And I wish all of you a happy and healthy Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year! Hasta 1989.



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**Dec. 28  
Marga Gomez  
Josh Kornbluth**

## BERNAL BRIEFS...

**Standards Brands Promotes two Bernal Heights Employees.** When Standard Brands opened, they gave priority to hiring Bernal Heights residents. Marvin Cano was hired as a sales clerk and has been selected for the Management Training Program. Paul Jensen was hired for maintenance and has been promoted to sales clerk.

**The Committee for Health Rights in Central America and the Nicaragua Hurricane Relief Project** are seeking donations of money and medical supplies for relief in Nicaragua where hurricane Joan has left 300,000 homeless. Call the Committee for Health Rights at 431-7760 or the Relief Fund at 841-1644 for more information.

**La Casa de las Madres**, San Francisco's oldest shelter for battered women and their children, is proud to announce the re-opening of its newly renovated shelter facility. The renovation project,

funded by the Mayor's Office Of Community Development and several foundations, including the Bothein Foundation, the Gannett Foundation and Gerbst Foundation, increases La Casa's capacity from 25 to 40 women and children. The building has also been made completely wheelchair accessible, enabling La Casa to serve disabled and frail elderly victims of domestic violence for the first time. The kitchen and bathrooms were repaired and updated, as well. La Casa has housed over 10,000 battered women and their children since opening in 1976. For more information on La Casa, the renovation and their services, please contact Ellen Fisher, Executive Director, at 777-1808.

The San Francisco Bach Choir directed by David Babbit will present its Christmas concert on December 10 at 8 p.m. at historic St. Paulus Church, Gough and Eddy, in San Francisco. The program's featured work will be the Magnificat by Bach. The lesser known but equally joyous Bach Cantata No. 182, "Himmelskonig, sei willkommen" will also be sung.



19

Superintendent Tom Roberts goes over the Coleridge Park Homes plans with Sam Morris, foreman; and Victor Wong, carpenter. Tom says progress is right on schedule and although we need the rain if it could just wait a few more days.....One really serious problem is that people park in front of the two Coleridge Street construction driveway entrances and Tom really does not want to have people's cars towed. He requests that the driveways be left clear from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

## Coleridge Park Homes Update

by Helen Helfer

If you've shopped at Standard Brands lately, you've no doubt seen the progress being made on our 49 Unit Senior Housing Project above the store. According to the contractor, Roberts/Ohbayashi, completion is still on target for May 1st, 1989.

The mailing list of persons interested in applying for a Coleridge Park Homes apartment is growing daily. If you'd like your name included on this list, please stop by the Bernal Heights Neighborhood Center at 515 Cortland Avenue and fill out the one-page form. No decisions are being made regarding this list until a Management Agent is selected later this month. At that time, a process will be put in place regarding tenant selection. Final selection will not be made until the Spring of 1989. We will keep you posted on the latest developments in the February Bernal Journal.

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